



# FARRER Neighbourhood Watch Group

## September 2009

**Area Coordinator:**

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**AFP**  
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Sponsorship and distribution of this newsletter to residents in Chifley, Curtin, Farrer, Hughes, Isaacs, Lyons and Mawson/Swinger Hill is authorised by ACT NHW Inc. A modified version without monthly crime statistics is available at: <http://www.nhwact.com.au>

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### From the Area Coordinator:

#### Volunteers Wanted

If you would like to do some voluntary work or just get some exercise, why not join Neighbourhood Watch and deliver a bundle of newsletters to Farrer letterboxes? We really need some new members, especially ones prepared to volunteer to deliver newsletters on a rostered basis or to fill in for someone who is unwell or otherwise absent.

Thanks as always to our all members who already give of their time to prepare and deliver the newsletter. Your efforts and those of other active volunteers are greatly appreciated.

Please contact the Area Coordinator for more information

#### Safety out and about

##### Out at night

- Think ahead - consider how you are going to get home - what about pre-booking a taxi or arranging a lift with a friend or family member?
- Never hitch-hike.
- Make sure that you stay with your party and that someone knows where you are at all times.
- Make sure you have enough money to get home or to phone.
- Keep away from trouble - if you see any trouble or suspect that it might be about to start - keep clear. The best thing you can do is to alert the police and keep away.
- Walk purposely and try to appear confident. Be wary of casual requests from strangers, like someone asking for a cigarette or change - they could have ulterior motives.
- Try not to carry your wallet in your back trouser pocket where it is vulnerable and in clear view.

Source:  
[http://afp.gov.au/act/crime\\_prevention/out\\_and\\_about.html#Playitsafewhenoutatnight](http://afp.gov.au/act/crime_prevention/out_and_about.html#Playitsafewhenoutatnight)

### FARRER NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

invites all residents to the  
AGM

on  
**Thursday, 15th October**  
in

**Farrer Primary School**  
Staff Room

at  
7:30pm

**GUEST SPEAKER**  
will demonstrate

Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation  
and

use of a defibrillator  
Supper will be served

and tickets will be on sale  
for the Christmas hamper

Please mark your diary for this community event

### FARRER RIDGE PARK CARERS

This group meets at Athllon Depot on first Sunday of the month. Summer start 8.30, rest, 10 am-12 noon

**Sept 27** 10 am Guided Spring Wildflower  
Community Walk

**Oct 11** \* **Note**, not on long weekend Sunday,  
which is 4th.

10 am: GPS any special plant sites. Weed removal

This Neighbourhood Watch newsletter is proudly sponsored by karen rush real estate

### Proudly supporting our community



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### **Crime Statistics:**

Crime statistics are deleted from the website at the request of the AFP - they are available on hard copies distributed to all residents of the suburb.

### **A note of thanks from a resident**

On a recent Friday afternoon a Woden resident called at the shops in Mawson and withdrew a sizeable amount of money from their bank account to pay for a dentist appointment they were to attend that afternoon. Being early, the resident sat on a seat outside the supermarket and organised a few things. However, upon leaving the seat, the resident forgot to pick up their wallet – so when he attended the dentist and went to retrieve his wallet, he realised his mistake. He ran back to where he had been seated, but the wallet had gone and shops in the vicinity confirmed that it had not been handed in. Very depressed and unable to keep his appointment, he walked home and needless to say had a pretty sad weekend.

On the following Monday night the resident received a call from the pharmacy near the supermarket, saying the wallet had been handed in and to his even bigger surprise it still contained all his money.

The Good Samaritan did not leave his name – but the resident would like to say to the person: THANKYOU. As the resident said, this kind action shouldn't be rare but it was still very surprising and very, very welcome.

### **Voluntary work – some interesting information**

The contribution voluntary work makes to the community is substantial. Voluntary work meets needs, provides opportunities for democratic participation, personal development and recreation and helps to establish and strengthen social networks and cohesion.

According to the results of an Australian Bureau of Statistics Survey of Voluntary Work, in 2006, 5.2 million people (34% of the adult Australian population) participated in some form of voluntary work. These volunteers contributed 713 million hours to the community by participating in many

different forms of voluntary work. The types of activities most frequently reported by volunteers were fundraising, preparing and serving food, teaching or providing information, administration, and management.

The ACT and Queensland had the highest proportion of volunteers in 2006, with 38% of these populations volunteering.

Overall, 32% of men and 36% of women were volunteers.

*Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 4441.0 – Voluntary Work, Australia, 2006*

### **Mobile RAPID nets 320 traffic offenders in first month**

*Wednesday, 19 August 2009*

ACT Policing's mobile number plate recognition software, also known as RAPID, has led to the detection of 320 traffic offenders since July 17, serving as a warning to Canberra motorists who think they won't be caught.

The technology, currently being used by a small team, enabled police to identify 181 unregistered drivers, 67 unlicensed drivers, 59 suspended drivers and 13 disqualified drivers in the month long period.

Superintendent in charge of Traffic Operations Mark Colbran says by the end of this year, all Traffic Operations vehicles will contain the technology, which will have a significant impact on road safety in the ACT.

“Nearly 22% of all collisions resulting in injury and 38% of all fatal collisions in the ACT involve an unregistered car or a driver who is not authorised to drive, so without doubt, getting these people off the roads is saving lives,” Supt Colbran said.

“In the past, drivers have told us that they take the chance of driving when they shouldn't because they believe that if they don't speed, police will not pull them over and they will remain undetected,” he said.

“The message should now be clear; RAPID takes that human element out of detecting people who do not have a right to drive on the streets of Canberra. This program will continue, across all Canberra suburbs, and as the entire Traffic Operations fleet becomes fitted-out with RAPID technology there will be no safe place in Canberra for unregistered cars and unlicensed drivers to avoid being caught.”

Media enquiries: ACT Policing Media and Public Relations Ph: 02 6256 7460 *Source:* [http://afp.gov.au/media\\_releases/act/2009/mobile\\_rapid\\_nets\\_320\\_traffic\\_offenders\\_in\\_first\\_month](http://afp.gov.au/media_releases/act/2009/mobile_rapid_nets_320_traffic_offenders_in_first_month)

**Please assist our police by reporting all suspicious activity to: CRIME STOPPERS use: 1800 333 000.**

**For police attendance use: 131 444. But, for all life-threatening emergencies use: “0 0 0”**

